

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 1, delete the term "Description."

Page 1, please amend the paragraph (the title) beginning on line 3 as follows:

Drive [assembly] unit for [a] hair [clipping machine] clippers.

Page 1, line 4, insert the heading --Background of the Invention--.

Page 1, after line 4, insert the heading --1. Technical Field--.

Page 1, please modify the paragraph beginning on line 5 as follows:

The invention relates to a drive assembly for a hair clipping machine [according to the preamble of claim 1].

Page 1, line 7, insert the heading --2. Description of Related Art--.

Page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 as follows:

A similar problem is encountered with the oscillating armature motor disclosed in DE-AS [?(number illegible)] 1 282 155, wherein a staircase-shaped air gap geometry with a plurality of steps is formed.

Page 2, line 13, insert the heading --Summary of the Invention--.

Page 2, delete the paragraph beginning on line 20.

[This problem is solved by a drive assembly for a hair clipping machine having the characterizing features of claim 1. Advantageous embodiments are disclosed in the features of the dependent claims.]

Page 4, line 21, insert the heading --Brief Description of the Drawings--.

Page 5, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 as follows:

Figure [4] 3: A top view of a third embodiment, wherein the field magnet-coil-assembly is connected to the armature through the first plate;

Page 5, line 18, insert the heading --Detailed Description of Various Embodiments--.

Please delete page 10 in its entirety.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

The invention relates to a drive unit for hair clippers or the like comprising a drive motor which is essentially comprised of a field magnet having a coil and a core that transverses said coil, and is comprised of an armature. Lateral air gap sections are formed between the field magnet and the armature, and middle air gap sections are formed between the core and the armature. The middle air gap sections and the lateral air gap sections are configured such that they run in a slanted manner and are approximately symmetric with regard to longitudinal axis.